CLAIMS

1.   Apparatus for displaying to a user a web page session for a web application, said web page session displaying a plurality of associated collaborative portlets, sharing information with each other, accessible by said user comprising:

a portal server for operating a web portal to provide access to said web application;

a portlet application, for managing a collection of associated portlets, for operating on said portal server;

access means to access a rules database adapted to store rules;

said rules comprising rules controlling display of sets of portlets, pages, page groups to users; and

selection means to select a set of portlets, pages, and page groups to be displayed to a user based on information provided by said user.

2.   The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said selection means comprises a pluggable rules engine and a portlet application aggregation engine which selects rules from said rules database and applies rules to select and display selected portlets, pages, and page groups to a user as required.

3.   Apparatus for displaying to a user a web page session for a web application, said web page session displaying a plurality of associated collaborative portlets, sharing information with each other, accessible by said user comprising:

a portal server for operating a web portal to provide access to said web application;

a portlet application, for managing a collection of associated portlets, for operating on said portal server;

roles access means to access a roles database;

said roles database containing rules controlling display of sets of portlets, pages, page groups to users based on user roles; and

role selection means to select a set of portlets, pages, and page groups to be displayed to a user based on an identified role of said user as required.

5   4.   Apparatus for supporting the selection of portal resources for a user based on business rules for a collection of associated portlets operating on a portal server comprising:

a rules database for storing display rules;

10

access means to access said rules database;

said rules comprising rules controlling display of sets of portlets, pages, page groups to users;

15

selection means to select a set of portlets, pages, and page groups to be displayed to a user based on information provided by said user as required.

20   5.   The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said selection means includes a rules engine which applies rules from said rules database to select and display selected portlets, pages, and page groups to a user.

6.   The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said selection means includes a
25   rules engine and a portlet application aggregation engine which applies rules from said rules database to select and display selected portlets, pages, and page groups to a user.

7.   The apparatus of claim 3 wherein said selection means comprises a
30   pluggable rules engine, and a portlet application aggregation engine which applies rules from said rules database to select and display selected portlets, pages, and page groups to a user.

8.   Apparatus for supporting the selection of portal resources for a
35   user based on business rules for a collection of associated portlets operating on a portal server comprising:

a portlet application, for managing a collection of associated portlets, for operating on said portal server;

40

a roles database;

said roles database containing rules controlling display of sets of portlets, pages, page groups to users based on user roles;

roles access means to access said roles database;

5

role selection means to select a set of portlets, pages, and page groups to be displayed to a user based on an identified role of said user.

9.   A method for displaying to a user a web page session for a web
10   application, said web page session displaying a plurality of associated collaborative portlets, sharing information with each other, accessible by said user comprising:

operating a web portal or a portal server to provide access to said
15   web application;

managing a collection of associated portlets with a portlet application, for operating on said portal server;

20   accessing a rules database storing rules;

said rules comprising rules controlling display of sets of portlets, pages, page groups to users;
selecting a set of portlets, pages, and page groups to be displayed
25   to a user based on information provided by said user as required.

10.   A method for supporting the selection of portal resources for a user based on business rules for a collection of associated portlets operating on a portal server comprising:
30

providing a rules database for storing display rules; said rules comprising rules controlling display of sets of portlets, pages, page groups to users;

35   accessing said rules database;

selecting a set of portlets, pages, and page groups to be displayed to a user based on information provided by said user as required.

40   11.   The method of claim 10 wherein a rules engine is used to apply rules from said rules database to select and display selected portlets, pages, and page groups to a user.

12.　　The method of claim 11·wherein said a rules engine and a portlet application aggregation engine apply rules from said rules database to select and display selected portlets, pages, and page groups to a user.

5　　13.　　The method of claim 9 wherein a pluggable rules engine, and a portlet application aggregation engine apply rules from said rules database to select and display selected portlets, pages, and page groups to a user.

10　　14.　　A method for supporting the selection of portal resources for a user based on business rules for a collection of associated portlets operating on a portal server comprising:

　　for managing a collection of associated portlets with a portlet
15　application operating on said portal server;

　　providing a roles database;

　　said roles database containing rules controlling display of sets of
20　portlets, pages, page groups to users based on user roles;

　　accessing said roles database;

　　selecting　a set of portlets,·pages, and page groups to be displayed
25　to a user based on an identified role of said user.

15.　　An article comprising:

　　a computer readable signal bearing medium;

30

　　computer program code means recorded on said medium adapted to perform the method of any of claims 10 to 13.

16.　　An article comprising:
35

　　a computer readable signal bearing medium;

　　computer program code means recorded on said medium adapted to implement the apparatus of any of claims 1 to 8.

40